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Gaspard de Coligny, Admiral of France. By A. W. WHITEHEAD.
(London: Methuen and Company. 1904. Pp. ix, 387.)

THIS capital volume deserves a hearty welcome both for its substantial worth and its interest as an example of the excellent results which may be obtained when capable and well-trained historical scholars apply their scientific spirit and methods to the exploitation of a field which they have hitherto rather neglected, that of historical biography. The author was the winner of the Stanhope historical prize at Oxford in 1896, and in his extensive linguistic equipment, well-developed critical spirit, and firm grasp upon the general field in which his subject lies he exhibits just those qualifications for his task which we should expect from the Oxford traditions and arrangements for the pursuit of historical studies. With these qualifications at his command and through extensive research at the principal manuscript repositories of London, Paris, Rome, Turin, Parma, Mantua, Modena, Florence, and Naples, he has produced a volume that is a real contribution to knowledge and the first adequate biography of Coligny in English.

The proportions of the book are excellent. About one-third of the space is devoted to Coligny's career prior to the wars of religion; the story of the first three of these wars consumes another third; the remainder is given over mainly to Coligny's anti-Spanish policy in 1570-1572, his efforts to establish Huguenot colonies in the New World, and the massacre of St. Bartholomew. There are two appendixes, one of which is an elaborate and apparently conclusive discussion of the much-mooted question of the responsibility for that article in the treaty of Hampton Court whereby the English were to be put in possession of Havre. Mr. Whitehead holds that Coligny and Condé were not in any wise responsible for it, and that its insertion must be laid at the door of the Vidame de Chartres, who in this matter probably exceeded his instructions. The value of the book is considerably enhanced by twenty-four full-page illustrations and several maps, plans, and tables. All of the illustrations are reproductions of contemporary pictures or objects, nearly every prominent character mentioned in the book being represented by a good portrait.

At several points Mr. Whitehead has reached distinctly new conclusions. Nevertheless, the principal value of his work lies elsewhere. Upon most of the important features of Coligny's career his conclusions are substantially those generally accepted or at least those already presented by one or more of his predecessors in the field. The value of Mr. Whitehead's work then lies in the greater assurance with which these conclusions may now be held, since they stand confirmed by an independent, painstaking, and searching investigation in which each previous conclusion has been critically examined and its acceptance made to depend upon new arguments and the support of materials hitherto unused.

In a more extended notice it would be the duty of the reviewer to

point out a number of defects. Such adverse criticisms would deal principally with the inadequate treatment of certain topics, such as the Reformation in France and the rise, character, and distribution of the Huguenot party; with an occasional deficiency in the manner of presentation, due principally to faulty arrangement; and with erroneous allusions to matters lying outside of the author's special field. The absence of a bibliography is to be regretted, especially as many of the citations are given by brief title, and verification is thus made difficult. These faults, however, are neither numerous nor serious enough to detract materially from the general excellence of the volume.

FRANK MALOY ANDERSON.

The American Nation: a History. Edited by ALBERT BUSHNELL HART. Volume 4. *England in America, 1580-1652.* By LYON GARDINER TYLER, LL.D., President of William and Mary College. Volume 5. *Colonial Self-Government, 1652-1689.* By CHARLES MCLEAN ANDREWS, Ph.D., Professor of History in Bryn Mawr College. (New York and London: Harper and Brothers. 1904. Pp. xx, 355; xviii, 369.)

IN refreshing contrast to many elaborate historical works of the day, this great coöperative enterprise suggests the study rather than the shop, and each new volume is certain of an eager welcome. The theme of the two volumes before us is English colonization in America during the seventeenth century; and the point of division between the two treatments is the year 1652, in which the supremacy of the Commonwealth was recognized throughout the colonies.

The luxurious style of volume is reason enough why the two books are not within one cover; but it may be questioned whether they should not have come from one author. The promise of twenty-eight volumes in the series, together with the imposing appearance of the books, gives rise to an expectation of abundant detail; but, owing in part to the sumptuous page, this impression is delusive. These two volumes comprise less than one-third the matter in Mr. Doyle's three on the same field, and the treatment sometimes is necessarily scant. The waste of space and the other inevitable weaknesses of the coöperative method should not be intensified by needless subdivision of the labor. Moreover, some quaint inconsistencies in the two accounts challenge attention. For instance, Dr. Tyler (p. 322) estimates the population of New England in 1652 at 50,000, while Dr. Andrews puts it correctly (p. 3) for the same period at half that figure. Still more vexing are the omissions and overlappings. Dr. Tyler carries somewhat beyond his date the disputes among the squabbling Rhode Island communities; Dr. Andrews, in order to trace the evolution of Rhode Island unity, repeats much of this troublous story—but neither writer finds it within his province to give real prominence to Rhode Island's stand for religious freedom. The territorial disputes between Dutch and Swedes and English are